

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: ROBERT SCHREEDER, CHIEF OF POLICE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
SUBJECT: KEITH HINTON, TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION MANAGER
APPROVAL OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT
WITH AXON ENTERPRISE, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF
AXON BODY-WORN CAMERAS AND ACCESS TO
EVIDENCE.COM OPERATING SYSTEM AND DATA STORAGE

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Police Department that the Council, by resolution, approve a professional services agreement with Axon Enterprise, Inc. for the purchase of Axon body-worn cameras to be issued to all police officers, and five years of associated software and digital evidence management for the management of the cameras and the storage of the digital files in an amount not to exceed \$1,017,537.54.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Police Department had previously outfitted all uniformed Police Officers with body-worn cameras (BWC) manufactured by VieVu which were licensed and programmed to work with the current digital file management system employed by the Police Department. The current stock of cameras are out of production and replacement cameras will not work with the current software or storage. The Police Department wishes to outfit all Police Officers with new cameras and to utilize compatible software and storage solutions.

BACKGROUND

The Police Department began issuing VieVu model LE3 cameras to all uniformed Police Officers at the conclusion of 2015 and phased in a rollout that lasted until the first quarter of 2016. Currently all body-worn camera video is stored on a digital evidence management software using a tool designed to remove the video from the camera. In August 2016 the Police Department learned that the VieVu LE3 was out of production and VieVu was only producing their next generation cameras, the LE4. The LE4 camera is not compatible with the Police Department's digital evidence management

software. VieVu notified the Police Department that they had changed their business model and would no longer license third party software companies and would instead be the sole source for the solution to manage and store video from the LE4 cameras. The Police Department's current digital evidence management system, Veripic, interfaces with the body-worn cameras by means of a module designed to remove the video from the camera and store those videos on a temporary basis. Videos can be transferred to the evidence storage component of the same product. The Police Department's experience with the program is that it is difficult and slow to use. The excessively slow speeds accessing the digital evidence management system, transferring and loading videos, and difficulties searching for and finding videos that are stored in the system have caused frustration, confusion and an inefficient use of staff time. The Police Department has been struggling to find a solution since the program's inception.

In July of 2017 the Police Department Issued Request for Proposal #17-39 seeking the acquisition of Body Worn Cameras for all Police Officers with accompanying hardware, management software and secure cloud video storage. Six vendors submitted proposals and after conducting a thorough review, the City wishes to award the contract to Axon Enterprise for a five-year term.

The Axon Body 2 camera system operates with proprietary Evidence.com cloud based software and was also found to be easy to use, had faster transfer speeds, was searchable and required very little I.T. staff time. The CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) integration offers the opportunity for the Police Department to audit compliance with Police Department Policy.

ANALYSIS

The Police Department is faced with an urgent decision to select a BWC supplier due to the end of the product line for the current cameras deployed. This urgency is amplified by the fact that the replacement model will not be compatible with the third party software used by the Police Department.

It is the conclusion of the Police Department that the BWC industry is still maturing and while there are many companies making cameras, their longevity and ability to deliver a product can be questioned. Many of these manufacturers cannot provide examples of large deployments to other police forces within the state or country. A very small number of manufacturers have emerged as industry leaders, with an even smaller number of them capturing the BWC market. It is felt that while this market is developing the Santa Rosa Police Department should focus on established manufactures with clear examples of success. As the premiere provider of Body-Worn Camera Systems to Police Departments around the Country, Axon Enterprise, Inc. has exemplified success.

FISCAL IMPACT

The initial fiscal impact will be two hundred and fifteen thousand, two hundred and eight

dollars (\$215,208.00) and the ongoing fiscal impact will be two hundred thousand, two hundred and eight dollars (\$200,208.00) for a five-year period for a not to exceed of \$1,017,537.54.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Not Applicable

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not Applicable

NOTIFICATION

Not Applicable

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Resolution

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